

Applicant : Nathaniel M. McCully
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REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending, of which claims 1, 8, 15, 16 are independent. Reconsideration of the action mailed November 29, 2005, is requested in light of the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-9, and 11-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,803,629 to Neville et al. ("Neville") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,245,676 ("Spitz"). The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Neville and Spitz and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,852,447 to Hosoya et al. ("Hosoya").

Section 103 Rejections

Claim 1 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Neville in view of Spitz. Claim 1 recites instructions to determine the height of text having of a plurality of characters to be arranged within a current line in a grid displayed on a display device. If the determined height of the text is larger then a specified dimension for the grid, an arrangement region is demarcated that includes the current line and at least one subsequent line in the grid. Thus, demarcating an arrangement region is conditioned upon the text height being larger then a dimension of the grid. A coordination line is set within the demarcated arrangement region according to a selected coordination mode. The characters are arranged within the arrangement region while coordinating the characters with the coordination line. Thus, characters are coordinated with a coordination line set for an arrangement region that includes more than one grid line.

The Examiner states that Neville discloses demarcating an arrangement region if the height of the text is larger than a specified dimension for the grid. However, Neville does not disclose or suggest demarcating an arrangement region if the height of the text is larger than a specified dimension for the grid.

The Examiner states that the recited feature is shown in FIG. 1 and FIGS. 7-9 of Neville. The applicant respectfully disagrees. FIG. 1 shows a representative pair of characters, which are illustrated to describe the various characteristics of character structure and associated font terminology including the concepts of origin point, baseline, character contours, font height, font

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height below the baseline, and character width. *See* col. 1, lines 32-43. Neville discloses that this information may be used to establish kerning offsets for adjacent characters (*i.e.*, spacing between particular character pairs). *See* col. 1, lines 44-45. Similarly, FIGS. 7-9 merely disclose examples of other character aspects. FIG. 7 illustrates parameters defining a font bounding box for all characters in a particular font. *See* col. 5, lines 66-67. The parameters include a maximum character height, a maximum width, and a lowest character (*i.e.*, height below the baseline) for a character in the font. *See* col. 8, lines 21-25; FIG. 7. Neville discloses that the character height is used to calculate a default intercharacter spacing amount (*i.e.*, the spacing between characters can vary according to the character's size). *See* col. 8, lines 25-31. FIG. 8, like FIG. 1, illustrates nomenclature for various parts of illustrated characters including width components such as character width and spacing width between a pair of characters. *See* col. 6, lines 1-2; col. 8, lines 32-38. Finally, FIG. 9 discloses an example of a bounding box surrounding a particular character of a font. *See* col. 6, line 3; col. 8, lines 59-60.

In the figures cited by the Examiner, all characters are shown positioned in character boxes sized for individual characters. Neville does not disclose or suggest demarcating an arrangement region when a particular condition is satisfied, specifically, when the height of text is larger than a specified dimension for a grid. Furthermore, Neville does not disclose or suggest text height as exceeding a specified dimension for a grid. No characters are shown in Neville as having a height which exceeds a grid dimension. Therefore, there is no disclosure or suggestion that an arrangement region is demarcated when the height of text is larger than a specified dimension for a grid, as required by claim 1.

Additionally, Neville does not disclose or suggest using the arrangement region to arrange a plurality of characters within the arrangement region according to a coordination line. The regions shown in the cited figures accommodate a single character. Consequently, none of these regions can be the arrangement region recited in claim 1, because Neville does not disclose or suggest arranging a plurality of character within the disclosed regions. Furthermore, Neville does not disclose or suggest arranging the plurality of characters according to a coordination line within the arrangement region demarcated if the height of the text exceeds a dimension of a grid.

The Examiner further states that Neville and Spitz are properly combinable because the techniques of Spitz would allow Neville to determine skew angle. The applicant respectfully

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disagrees. The disclosure in Neville deals with setting intercharacter spacing between a pair of character to be initially typeset. *See* Abstract. Spitz, in contrast, deals with calculating skew angle (*i.e.*, the angle, or tilt, of a line from horizontal) resulting from imperfectly scanned text documents. *See* col. 1, lines 6-12. Since Neville's objective is to set intercharacter spacing for typesetting a line of text, there would be no skew angle, which is a result of misaligned document scanning. Thus, there would be no motivation for Neville to determine skew angle.

Additionally, there is no suggestion to combine Neville and Spitz to disclose the recited feature of demarcating an arrangement region including the current and at least one subsequent line if the height of the text exceeds a grid dimension. Spitz discloses two coding lines where lines of text have been encoded to detect skew angle. However, there would be no motivation to condition the encoding on text height relative to a grid. Similarly, Neville deals with the spacing between a pair of characters in a single line when typesetting (*i.e.*, generating) the line, thus, there is no motivation for Neville to demarcate an arrangement region that includes more than one grid line. The applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as well as claims 2-7, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance.

Claim 2 stands rejected as unpatentable over Neville in view of Spitz. Claim 2 recites a frame grid that is movable to a desired position on a page of an electronic document displayed on the display device. The Examiner states that Spitz discloses a movable frame grid by showing the pair of lines of encoded, compressed character in FIGS. 3A-3C. Furthermore, the Examiner states, in response to the applicant's previous arguments, that since the two lines are labeled N and N+1, this means that the grid representing encoded lines of text is movable. This conclusion is completely unjustified. The use of N and N+1 simply reflects that the encoded lines illustrated represent a sequential pair of text lines. The use of the variable N does not disclose or suggest a movable frame grid.

Furthermore, the encoding lines in FIGS. 3A-3C are shown only to illustrate the structural differences between the vertical, horizontal, and pass encoding modes for compressed scan lines. FIG. 3A, for example, illustrates a vertical encoding mode where pixel transitions from black to white are compared between a reference line and a subsequent line. Different encoding modes are used depending on the structure of the encoded text. While the figures of Spitz illustrate the different encoding modes, the encoded lines themselves are not displayed on a

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display device to a user, therefore the encoding lines do not show a grid displayed on a display device as required by claim 1. Thus, the displayed encoding sample lines can not illustrate a movable frame grid displayed on a display device as required by claim 2. The applicant respectfully submits that claim 2, as well as claim 3, which depends from claim 2, is in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 stands rejected as unpatentable over Neville in view of Spitz. Claim 8 recites demarcating an arrangement region that includes the current line and at least one subsequent line if the height of the text is larger than a specified dimension for the grid. For the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 8 as well as claims 9-14, which depend from claim 8, are in condition for allowance.

Claim 15 stands rejected as unpatentable over Neville in view of Spitz. Claim 15 recites a control means that determines whether a maximum dimension of a plurality of characters to be arranged according to a selected coordination mode within a current line of a grid displayed on the display device exceeds a specified dimension of the grid. The control means also selects a current line and at least one subsequent line of the grid. For the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 15 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 stands rejected as unpatentable over Neville in view of Spitz. Claim 16 recites determining whether a maximum dimension of a plurality of characters to be arranged according to a selected coordination mode within a current line of a grid displayed on a display device exceeds a specified dimension of the grid and selecting a current line and at least one subsequent line of the grid. For the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 16 is in condition for allowance.

The applicant respectfully requests that all pending claims be allowed.

By responding in the foregoing remarks only to particular positions taken by the examiner, the applicant does not acquiesce with other positions that have not been explicitly addressed. In addition, the applicant's arguments for the patentability of a claim should not be understood as implying that no other reasons for the patentability of that claim exist.

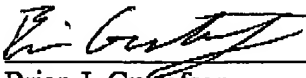
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Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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